

MARYLAND COLONIZATION JOURNAL.

CONDUCTED BY JAMES HALL, GENERAL AGENT OF THE MARYLAND STATE COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

New Series.

BALTIMORE, JULY, 1848.

Vol. 4.—No. 13.

“Nothing is more clearly written in the Book of Destiny, than the Emancipation of the Blacks; and it is equally certain that the two races will never live in a state of equal freedom under the same government, so insurmountable are the barriers which nature, habit and opinion have established between them.”

JEFFERSON.

FROM THE COLONY.

By the Madonna, which arrived in New York, on the 28th of June, we have advices from Cape Palmas as late as the 5th of May, and from Monrovia up to the 17th. The Liberia Packet arrived at the latter port on the 16th of that month, 32 days from Cape Henry and 35 from Baltimore, emigrants all well and cargo in good order. The Brig Amazon, which left Baltimore on the 3d of February, arrived at Monrovia on the 14th of March, with emigrants and cargo in good condition. Mr. Cassell, who went out as passenger in the Amazon, gives Captain Chason great credit for his kindness to the cabin passengers and emigrants. For general items of news we refer to the extracts from the Liberia papers. Governor Russwurm has returned from the leeward, greatly improved in health, and doubtless with information, that will be highly advantageous to the Colony. We refer our readers to his letter annexed. We subjoin a short communication from Mr. Prout, Secretary of the Cape Palmas Lyceum, rendering thanks to several gentlemen of our city, who had been induced, through the agency of the colonists' ever active friend, Moses Sheppard, to furnish the Lyceum with many valuable volumes. Will this notice of the subject induce others to do likewise?

CAPE PALMAS, May 4, 1848.

DR. JAMES HALL, *Gen. Agent Md. St. Col. Soc.*

Dear Sir,—Mr. Prout informed you in his letter of April 4, 1848, that I was absent at the leeward on account of my health. I returned soon enough to see the “Amazon” sail, and should have written by her if necessary. My health is much improved from the trip, but I am still feeble. My voyage extended to the Island of St. Thomas, and I was absent just nine weeks. I hope it will not prove altogether unprofitable, as far as the interests of the Colony and Society are concerned. At “Napoleon Farm,” some five miles in the interior from Cape Coast, I found the real bread fruit tree, and procured 24 young plants, but as they have not arrived yet, I am afraid I shall lose them all. At any rate, I have the promise of the seed from the ripe fruit, which I heretofore thought could only be propagated by slips from the plant. At St. Thomas, belonging to Portugal, I saw a most fertile

soil, owned by the laziest people on earth. Not more than one-third is cultivated—the people groan under a heavy duty of 10 per cent. on all importations and exportations.

I found on my tour, the greatest ignorance and some prejudice prevailing as far as the American colonies were concerned; these, of course, I laboured to dispel. I saw no location to be compared to Cape Palmas, except St. Thomas; for if our roads and streets do not furnish us with gold dust, our springs, wells and rivers afford us plenty of water for drink and ablution. When thirsty, we need not fear the *guinea-worm* in our waters. I saw several very intelligent gentlemen of colour, among whom is Mr. Bartels, of Elmina, said to be the richest merchant on the West Coast. Most of these are natives of this country, educated in Europe, where they now have to send their sons to enjoy the same advantages.

Since my return I hear a war is waging by the English, French and Dutch against the king of "Appalonia," who, some few months ago, treacherously killed the governor, physician and other officers of the French settlement at *Assinee River*. The particulars I shall endeavour to send you for publication as soon as the letter arrives. At present I believe the naval force off Appolonia is no less than ten men of war and steamers, and nearly all the regulars and militia from the different forts. The Appalonians find themselves between two fires, as they are at war with some interior tribe. The civilized wish to drive them off the beach, an affair rather difficult, so far as I am informed. I believe the Cape Lahou people are under the jurisdiction of the king of Appolonia.

The new emigrants are doing very well, four families have been placed on their farms or lots, and houses are being erected for five more. The scarcity of lumber has retarded their completion. The scarcity of rice has been great during my absence, but they can have no cause to complain, as they have had full rations in rice, corn meal, bread and potatoes, besides having flour bread baked for them every other day during their sickness. They are a very decent set of emigrants, and deserve great credit for their cleanliness.

We may consider our rains as fairly set in, as we have had abundant and frequent showers for the last three weeks. The prospect ahead is, that all our crops of rice and potatōes will be abundant, both on the beach and in the interior. Palm oil has been very scarce since the sailing of the L. Packet, and the natives are just beginning to make it. Palm nuts are very abundant. The oil trade at the leeward is somewhat different from ours, for while they pay more and in part cowries, they purchase in larger quantities, which renders their trade very profitable. You are aware the *cowrie* is the money of the interior. What goes from the beach, never returns. There are some hundreds of recaptives from Brazil, who reside in the neighbourhood of Accra—they are great traders, and perambulate the interior in all directions, un molested. They go where the Fantees dare not, and are easily distinguished from them by a foreign air of politeness and walk.

The Dutch government has sent out two sets of miners, with machinery from Europe, and they have opened a gold mine, some 20 or 25 miles in the interior of Elmina. The first set have nearly all died from fever—I hardly believe they can make it profitable—they are after the rock gold.

The Danish government has established several families of free coloured people from their island of St. Thomas, W. I. some twelve miles in the interior of Accra, under the care of missionaries of the United Brethren. They are provided with every comfort, and it is reported that one thousand dollars (\$1,000) is appropriated to the settlement of each family.

You will be pleased to learn that the Rock Store, No. 2, is now finished. It is 30 by 60, one story high. I have the semi-annual account up to January 1, 1848, and other papers of interest now ready, which I shall deliver myself.

I have the honour to remain, your obedient servant,

JNO. B. RUSSWURM,
Agent Md. S. C. S.

HARPER, *Cape Palmas, April 29, 1848.*

DR. JAMES HALL, *Gen. Agent Md. St. Col. Soc., Ball.*

Sir,—The members of the Cape Palmas Lyceum have requested me to communicate through the Colonization Journal, and express to T. Kelso, Esq., Mr. James Owings, Mr. Wm. E. Mayhew, Mr. Richard Dorsey, Mr. Robert Miller, Samuel McDonald, Esq. and Messrs. Fisher, Miller & Co., their thanks for their liberality in furnishing them with quite a number of interesting and valuable works.

A spirit to become more enlightened is seemingly at work in the minds of many persons here, and the books presented by these kind individuals will serve to remove some of the difficulties with which they have had to contend in the acquirement of useful knowledge.

I have the honor to remain your obedient servant,

W. A. PROUT,
Corresponding Secretary.

ARRIVAL OF PRESIDENT ROBERTS.

His excellency, Joseph J. Roberts, the first President of the Republic of Liberia, arrived in New York on the 28th ult. accompanied by his lady, daughter and Mrs. Lewis, lady of Gen. Lewis, the first Secretary of the Republic. The occasion of Mr. Roberts' visit to this country and Europe, is referred to, in the subjoined extracts from the Liberia papers. In an interview which we had with President Roberts, in New York, we learn that it is not his intention to visit Washington, or make any attempts at present, to procure, on the part of our Government, a recognition of the Republic of Liberia, but to appoint some American citizen to act as the political agent or minister on part of the Liberia Government. Mr. Roberts will also appoint one or more commercial agents of his Government, in some of the Atlantic cities, a measure rendered necessary by the action of the Liberia legislature, assuming a monopoly of several prominent articles of trade, in order to raise a revenue sufficient for the support of their Government. The wisdom of this measure is, to our mind, more than questionable, and we doubt not it will be abandoned after a fair trial. Under circumstances and management the most favourable and correct, all proceeds therefrom, we are confident, will not equal what might be realized from an *ad valorem* duty of 10 per cent. on the principal articles of commerce, and a higher discretionary and protective duty on sundry articles of luxury and of home manufacture. It is but proper, however, to say, that at the rates which they have established for the sale of the articles thus monopolised, the colonial traders will be able to obtain their supplies on better terms than heretofore, from foreign vessels; consequently, the consumption of the articles will be

greater, thereby giving the producers no cause of complaint. President Roberts will proceed to Europe in the latter part of this month, where we judge he will be more likely to effect the political objects of his tour than in this country. It will be seen by the following paragraph that the Mayor of the City of New York has seen fit to call the attention of the Council to the presence of President Roberts in that city.

President Roberts of Liberia.—A night or two since, in the New York Common Council, a message was received from the Mayor, announcing the visit to that city of President Roberts, of the Republic of Liberia, and recommending suitable action on the part of the Board. Mr. Roberts, (remarked the Mayor,) visits this country on the business of his Government, as well as to obtain such information of our institutions as will be serviceable in the administration of the important trust confided in him. The distinguished position which this gentleman holds as the Chief Magistrate of a sister Republic, founded by colonization from our own institutions, as well as the uniform courtesy and attention which have characterised his intercourse with officers of our navy, and other citizens visiting Liberia, entitle him to every facility calculated to secure the object of his mission; and he would therefore submit the propriety of extending to President Roberts such courtesies in furtherance of his views as are due alike to his official position and personal character.

We learn that President Roberts will leave in the steamer of the 20th, his object being to visit England and France, for the purpose of inducing those countries to recognise the Republic of Liberia.

EXTRACTS FROM LIBERIA PAPERS.

OUR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Until the return of President Roberts, our expectations will be as various as the wind. He left our shores clothed with certain powers, the amicable arrangement of which, in the United States, England, and with other powers, will raise our spirits, and infuse new energies into every citizen. The legislature knowing full well the importance of having at the earliest day, foreign governments to acknowledge the Independence of the Republic, and at the same time having no available resources, wherewith to send Commissioners to foreign Courts for the purpose, found itself in rather an awkward position. Many plans were proposed for carrying out these important measures; but they were abandoned nearly as soon as they were introduced. While in a state of uncertainty as to the most practicable course to be adopted, under these untoward circumstances, it was intimated that the President intended to make a foreign visit for the benefit of the health of his family. This seemed to open a way, whereby a portion of our most important affairs might be attended to; but then there was a delicacy attending the bringing of the subject before the President; it being pretty generally known that he had expressed a desire more than fifteen months before that time, to retire for a while from public affairs;—and it was only at the most urgent solicitations of many of our most prominent citizens from all parts of the Republic that he consented to be a candidate for the Presidency. But there was very little time for parleying; and it was proposed by some of the members of each branch of the legislature, to seek an early opportunity of introducing the subject to the President, and if possible, obtain his consent to attend to our foreign affairs while abroad, should the legislature be inclined to clothe him with the necessary authority.

to do so. The interview took place, and the President, though disposed to do all in his power to forward the affairs of the State, was unwilling to be burdened with matters of so much importance, when his object in going abroad was to seek health. But he was not permitted to have his own way in this respect, without being further importuned; and accordingly other gentlemen, not members of the legislature, but high in the confidence of the people, and immediately identified with every interest of the State, joined their voices with those who first waited on the President, and after considerable reasoning, the President said, "that he would no longer consider himself at liberty to decline performing any duty, however arduous, that the Representatives of the people might be inclined to authorise him to attend to." No delay took place before the legislature passed resolutions clothing him with such authority; and it must be gratifying to the members of the legislature to hear the favorable opinions coming from all parts of the State, as to their action in this respect. It is the decided opinion of nearly every person who have expressed their views on the subject, that the legislature could not have adopted a more feasible plan to bring our government before the notice of foreign powers. President Roberts is intimately acquainted with every particular of our affairs—more so than any other person. For the last seven years, he has been the Chief Executive officer of Liberia; and as such, has been obliged to carry on correspondence with the representatives of the government of Great Britain, of a very important character; and which to us, seemed to wear a very threatening aspect.

And it is not improbable that some of the subjects embraced in that correspondence, may be forced up for discussion in England, when that government is called upon to acknowledge our Independence. It is from that government more than any other, that we expect to receive the most friendly assurances, &c., &c.

THE DEPARTURE.

On the evening or the 4th inst., the American bark "Nehemiah Rich," Daniel L. Carlton master left our harbor for the U. States, via. West Indies. The following named persons took passage in her. President Roberts, lady and daughter, and Mrs. John N. Lewis—and Messrs. B. R. Wilson, James S. Payne, A. F. Russel, Sion Harris and lady, and Mrs. Ralph Moore. The President and family, and Mrs. Lewis, will go from the U. States to England.

We do not remember having witnessed before, the departure of so many of our distinguished and interesting citizens, at any one time; and we feel confident, that on no similar occasion, have there been such a general manifestation of interest and feeling by the citizens at large, as was openly shown on the afternoon of the 4th. Hundreds of friends and spectators of both sexes crowded the wharf, to wish the travellers a pleasant and interesting visit to foreign lands: and many a silent tear was seen to trickle down the fair cheek, when the affectionate adieu was hastily given and received.

The French Brigs of war, "Bougainville," Captain Chaigneau, and "Dupetit Thours," Captain Protet, remained in port some two or three days, for the ostensible purpose of escorting the President and his friends on board the bark; and it was with no ordinary degree of pleasure that we noticed the enlarged arrangements made by these accomplished officers, to show respect to the President of the Republic, and his distinguished friends. They had six boats in waiting, decorated with the flags and pennants of

their country; and the party set off in them from the wharf about half past four of the clock. The boats had scarcely left the wharf, before the firing of a national salute commenced at Fort Norris, under the direction of Colonel Yates.

After the passengers had reached the bark, the President made a short visit to each of the brigs of war, and was received on board with the honors becoming his rank. Several of our prominent citizens accompanied the President to the bark, and returned to the shore after night-fall, in a large and comfortable barge, placed at their disposal for the occasion, by Captain Chaigneau.

Captains Chaigneau and Protet, are entitled to our highest gratitude for the honor they have thus shown the Republic through its Chief Magistrate.

REVOLUTION IN FRANCE.

Late English papers announce the astonishing fact of a revolution in France, and the abdication of the citizen King, Louis Phillippe, and of the ascendancy of the Count of Paris.

Our ignorance of European affairs and policy, will hardly allow us a conjecture on an affair so momentous; but we entertain great apprehension that the event which drove Louis from the throne, is but the opening of a plot that will drench France with blood.

The spirit of freedom has gone forth. It is diffusing itself not only throughout the regions of the new world, but addressing itself boldly to the monarchies of the old. It may be staid by address, and restrained from violent outbursts by timely concessions; but after its just and reasonable demands have been repeatedly refused or neglected, there is no hope that it will not seize by force what it were willing to receive as a boon.

In all such disastrous events, the responsibility will be found on the side of the governing. No large body of people will engage in the bloody scene of a revolution without a cause. In all countries, a few rash and reckless spirits may be found ready for any enterprize; but it will be no easy matter for them to rouse the nation to action without some ostensible cause for the movement. If the governments were wise, they would deprive the revolutionary regicide of this weapon, by timely concessions and redress of the grievances of those for whose welfare they were constituted, and from whom they derived their powers.

MONROVIA.

Our town is rapidly improving. For the last two years, a spirit of industry and enterprize seems to have taken possession of our people: and though the song of "hard times" continues to be heard on every side, the improvements of the last two years in buildings of a durable and costly character, far exceed in number and comfortableness, those of any other period. It is really gratifying to us, to notice the rapid strides that are now being made by all classes of the people to make themselves comfortable. We counted a few days ago, thirty-four new buildings, many of them of brick and stone, and in a forward state of completion; and arrangements are in progress for the building of as many more. Our young men are not behind the spirit of the times. Many of them are honorably exerting themselves to get into their own houses. We would suggest to our young ladies, the propriety of giving a direct and unequivocal refusal to any young man who offered proposals of marriage, unless he could lay claim to a comfortable dwelling, and otherwise well improved premises.

A SKETCH OF THE IMPROVEMENT OF MARSHALL.

Our readers abroad, if not at home, no doubt would like to hear something about Marshall—its improvement and influence over the adjacent native tribes.

The town of Marshall is situated on the North-West side of the Junk River. The situation of the town may be thought by some to be located in an advantagéous place; but we are inclined to think to the contrary. Had the town been placed about a mile farther up the river—in all probability it would have been the means of inducing many of the inhabitants of the different settlements to have removed there. Many of the inhabitants of the town have been obliged to leave, and settle permanently on their farms, some six or eight miles up the river, where they can, through all the seasons of the year, reap the fruits of their labor.

The town is situated upon a sandy part of the country, near the beach; and during the summer, the heat being so intense, the parching sand will not admit any of the kitchen vegetables to thrive; therefore to raise any of the common garden vegetables, they are obliged to shelter them from the overpowering influence of the sun.

The inhabitants of Marshall live principally in thatched houses—the basements of them are plastered very well, and have quite a respectable appearance. The cause of this is obvious, from the fact, that there are but few sawyers in the place; and they having witnessed the bad effect produced by working in the *swamp*, have desisted from such a course of occupation, and turned their attention exclusively to farming. There are many peculiar circumstances connected with this settlement; but taking into consideration many of the almost insurmountable barriers, we think the inhabitants of Marshall have done well. And if we should be guided by what we have seen, and learned from others, she has improved much, and bids fair to be of great advantage to this Republic. Though without any help through the tide of emigration, yet many individuals have found it to their advantage to remove from this, and the adjoining settlements, to Marshall, where they can, in their estimation, more easily obtain that sustenance which nature demands.

There has been imported from Marshall to this place, during this year, two thousand bushels of lime, besides a considerable quantity of *oysters*, and other staple products. The people in general live quite independently; for they have no dealing with foreigners—as most every thing in the *eating* line is produced by their own labor—*oysters* excepted; and these you can easily obtain in great abundance from the rivers in that vicinity.

The adjacent native tribes seem to be more subject to the laws of this government than we have ever known them, and are becoming so inured to civilized customs, that when they have any disputes among themselves, as a general thing, they come to a Magistrate to settle their difficulties. Such an influence has long been desired by this government, and we hope inducements will be held out to them, that by some means, yet unknown to us, our influence may be exerted so far as to bring about effectually, a total abolition of the slave trade, which is carried on so extensively among them. The day is not far distant, we hope, when we shall see the light of science, and the influence of Christianity disseminated among them. To witness scenes characteristic of the native Africans, there are objects presented to us in their nature appalling. We hope, however, that the influence that will be exerted by this government, may bring about a speedy reformation.

In a measure, we have already witnessed the salutary effect produced

by the progress of civilization in this country. It would indeed be a pleasing sight to those true hearted friends of other countries, who have spent time and talent for the advancement of the great Colonization scheme, to witness on the Sabbath the many scores of native children and youth crowding to the different religious institutions opened for their benefit. We are inclined to think, that they would acknowledge that their hopes were already realized.

SLAVE TRADE AT LITTLE CAPE MOUNT.

We learn from an authentic source, that the *slave trade* is carried on quite extensively, at or near Little Cape Mount, (distant about forty miles,) by a Krooman named *Do*; employed, as we are informed, by that notorious slave dealer at New Cess. He has now on hand about seventy slaves for that market. Cannot there be a stop put to this nefarious traffic within the limits of this Republic? We hope there will be some prominent measures taken by this government that will bring the rebels to justice. This indeed is grievous and corroding to the feelings of all true philanthropists.

Some few months ago, there was a similar establishment at King Gray's town, (distant about sixteen miles,) and a goodly number of the citizens volunteered their services to go and rescue the poor victims, doomed to undergo the severity of their inhuman masters, if some immediate assistance was not afforded. Is there not left a spark of that spirit in the bosoms of our citizens, that would arouse their feelings to such a loud call of humanity?

Remember fellow citizens, that we came to this country for the ostensible purpose of stopping the progress of this accursed traffic; therefore we must endeavour to exert our influence in such a manner, that it may be instrumental whether directly, or indirectly, in benefitting the sable sons of Africa.

A SLAVER CAPTURED.

About two weeks since, a Brazillian schooner, a prize to H. B. M. Ship *Fire Fly*, went into Sierra Leone with two hundred and thirty-five slaves. She was taken off Gaboon—when taken, she had on board two hundred and seventy. These were crowded into a vessel of such small dimensions, that in the space of twenty days, thirty-five of these perished. If these pirates would only have vessels large enough to preserve the lives of the poor creatures, it would perhaps render their traffic somewhat less horrible on the score of humanity, if indeed there can be any modified grade to a crime so high and heinous in the sight of God and man.

Mr. Editor,—I take this opportunity to inform you of the health of the late immigrants under my medical care, at the settlements of Virginia, and Monrovia. The company by the Amazon, and twenty-nine of the company per Barque Nehemiah Rich, from Kentucky, numbering in all about seventy-five; all of whom have been attacked with the acclimating fever, and nearly all may now be considered convalescent. I have lost one, who died, however, not of fever; for he had been attacked, and was in a degree, convalescent; but while yet in a debilitated state, from the effects of the fever, was taken with an attack of *cholera morbus*, which prostrated him at once, and he sunk in a state of collapse.

H. J. ROBERTS, M. D. *Attending Physician.*

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT, *Monrovia, May 10th, 1848.*

NAVAL DEPARTMENT.

April 12. United States Ship Decatur, Captain E. Byrne, from the leeward.

April 14. H. M. C. M. Brig Bougainville, Captain P. Chaigneau, from the leeward.

DEPARTURES.

April 1. United States Ship Decatur, Captain E. Byrne, for the leeward.

April 5. H. M. C. M. Brigs Bougainville, Captain P. Chaigneau, and Dupetit Thours, Captain Protet—both for the leeward..

April 14. United States Ship Decatur, Captain E. Byrne, for the leeward.

April 15. H. M. C. M. Brigs Bougainville, Captain P. Chaigneau, for France via. Cape de Verd Islands.

MARINE LIST: PORT OF MONROVIA.

ARRIVALS.

April 2. American barque Nehemiah Rich, Carlton, master, from Sinoe.

April 2. Lib. schooner Teazer, Jones, master, from the leeward.

April 3. American barque Montgomery, Hooper, master, from Cape Palmas.

April 5. Lib. schooner Perseverance, Boston, master, from the leeward.

April 6. Lib. schooner Hannah, Barbour, master, from Marshall: passenger J. J. Powell, Esq.

April 6. Lib. sloop Fidelity, Marshall, master, from Grand Bassa.

April 8. Lib. cutter Catharine, Vicks, master, from the windward.

April 15. American ship Madonna, Lawlin, master, from the leeward: passengers from Settre Kroo, Rev. Mr. Conley, lady and child, and Miss L. Coke.

April 15. Lib. schooner Hannah, Madison, master, from Marshall: passenger J. H. Paxton.

April 15. Lib. cutter Eliza Frances, Howard, master, from Marshall.

April 16. American barque Nile, Scott, master, from Cape Palmas.

April 18. Lib. cutter Star, Davis, master, from Cape Palmas: passenger Mr. R. S. McGill.

April 22. Hamburg brig Therese,—from Sierra Leone.

April 26. Lib. schooner Perseverance, Boston, Master, from the leeward.

April 24. Lib. schooner Hannah, Madison, master, from Marshall.

April 26. Lib. schooner Teazer, Jones, master, from the leeward.

DEPARTURES.

April 1. American barque Nile, Scott, master, for the leeward.

April 2. Lib. schooner Hannah, Barbour, master, for the leeward.

April 4. American barque Nehemiah Rich, Carlton, master, for New York, via. West Indies.

April 5. Bremen brig Felecie, Hollman, master, for the leeward.

April 6. American barque Montgomery, Hooper, master, for New York: passengers Rev. I. Clark, lady and son, and Mr. J. H. Archibald.

April 6. Lib. schooner Teazer, Jones, master, for the leeward.

- April 8. Lib. schooner Hannah, Madison, master, for Marshall: passengers J. J. Powell, Esq. and Mr. J. H. Paxton.
- April 8. Lib. cutter Eliza Frances, Howard, master, for Marshall: passengers Mrs. Mary Ann Minor and Miss Georgianna E. Minor.
- April 8. Lib. sloop Fidelity, Marshall, master, for Grand Bassa: passenger Mrs. M. Washington.
- April 11. Lib. schooner Perseverance, Boston, master, for the leeward.
- April 19. American barque Nile, Scott, master, for the leeward.
- April 19. Lib. schooner Susannah, Ammons, master, for the leeward.
- April 19. Lib. cutter Star, Davis, master, for Cape Palmas: passenger Mr. R. S. McGill.
- April 20. Lib. schooner Hannah, Madison, master, for Marshall.
- April 22. Lib. cutter Eliza Frances, Howard, master, for the leeward.
- April 22. Lib. sloop Nathan Bangs, Hunt, master, for the leeward.

(Reported for the Christian Advocate and Journal.)

NEW YORK COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

A meeting of this Society was held on Wednesday evening, in the Tabernacle, to afford an opportunity for Rev. Messrs. Payne, Russel and Wilson, clergymen of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Liberia, M. Harris, a farmer in that republic, and its president, Mr. Roberts, to give plain statements of the present condition of Liberia, and their own individual pursuits, prospects and feelings. The attendance on the part of the public, was thin, a heavy storm passing over the city at the hour for which the meeting was convened, and deterring those resident at a distance from the place of meeting from attending its interesting exercises.

Rev. Dr. De Witt was called to the chair, and the meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. Mr. M'Lean. The corresponding secretary of the Society, Rev. J. B. Pinney, after a few remarks to the effect that the meeting was convened principally for the sake of showing the practical effects of the society's labors, introduced the Rev. Mr. Payne, who gave, in substance, the following narrative of his connection with the late colony and now republic of Liberia:—

In 1828, his father, a laboring man without any trade, having a large family, whom he could not educate here as he wished, resolved upon emigrating to Liberia, from Virginia, after first thinking of Ohio. Several others accompanied him, President Roberts among them. Soon after their arrival the speaker's father died of the acclimating fever. The disease is not now near so fatal, its treatment being better understood. The oldest son also died, and the mother with a large family was left comparatively unprovided for. The mother died in 1840, possessed of considerable property, and all her children educated and well provided for. The speaker had been engaged eight years in preaching the Gospel, one of his brothers three years, and three other brothers were engaged in mercantile transactions, one of them to a large amount.

Since the speaker arrived here, he had been making observations upon the condition of his race in this country. He had found some of talent and education, who, if they were placed in any situation where they could be encouraged in the requisite exertion, would have been well able to support themselves and families in respectability and affluence. Circumstanced as they were, they could do nothing of the kind. Had the speaker, and those who were with him from Liberia, remained here, they would have been still performing menial service, blacking shoes, or perchance aspiring to the honor of driving a carriage. Nothing better could they have done. Now

the case was different. They had competence, and respectability, and influence at home, and were freemen, and their children were free, which was best of all.

It was the colony at Liberia which had secured him and others these blessings, and he warmly thanked the Colonization Society for enabling him to go thither. So far from being dissatisfied, or wishing to return to America, were he offered fortune and elevated position, he would not do it. Liberia was his home, and the home of the colored race. The climate was not bad, as many represented. The sun did not burn the people up, or the speaker had not remained to this day. He had never found it so warm in Liberia as he had in New York that day.

He had had considerable intercourse with the natives—had labored with them, conversed with them on religion, and, though, like all heathens, they were averse to embracing religion, still the missionaries had met with great success. He had seen many conversions, and he left at Monrovia a goodly number of Church members, who were “walking in all the commandments of the Lord, blameless.” Especially was there a strong desire to have their children educated. The Sunday School at Monrovia was crowded with native children.

Rev. Mr. Russell next spoke. He said he loved Liberia, just for the same reasons that Americans loved America. He was there a free man, upon soil that belonged to him; there he could worship God without fear or molestation, which thousands of his race here could not do—it was next to death for them to open the Bible at all. There the people made their own laws, and whatever could make a man love his country was to be found there. How different the state of things there now to what it was a few years ago. Kidnapping and slave-selling, and rapine and plunder, were unknown now, and instead of learning savage warfare, men learned agriculture and civilized trades. So much had the Colonization Society done on the Western Coast of Africa.

The soil there was rich. Everything that grows in the West Indies, grows in Liberia, more abundantly and of better quality, the bread tree excepted. In the West Indies they plant the sugar cane every year; in Liberia every five years. The coffee tree in the West Indies yields from two to three pounds the tree; in Liberia the average is from twelve to fourteen. In all other fruits their is equal superiority. Ten men could not be found in Liberia who could be persuaded to return to these United States. You could not find ten who did not possess land of their own, and there was room enough for the population of a continent as large as this. A hundred acres, as good land as could be, might be bought for a dollar an acre. The natives now understood the character of the Liberians, and for a small consideration would give them peaceable possession of as much land as they wished to possess.

If his colored brethren knew what he knew, they would go to Liberia, and leave their children there in freedom and happiness. What were the 500,000 of them in these states doing? How were they circumstanced? Were they fulfilling their destiny? Here they were raised without any of the superstitions of their race, comparatively enlightened, and having the knowledge and experience acquired by long residence in a civilized, Christian country. What good might they not effect, in addition to the promotion of their personal happiness, by removing to Liberia? If five thousand such had wrought so great a blessing, had effected so much good in Liberia, what might not another ten thousand effect? Thousands there were waiting to be converted and civilized. That country would yet become the Heaven-favored home where colored people could enjoy all the blessings God designed they should enjoy.

The speaker knew men in Liberia who would weep tears of bitterest sorrow if they believed they would have to come back to America. There was true happiness, and they would be unwilling to leave it.

Rev. Mr. Wilson next addressed the meeting. He went out from Virginia in 1833; was born of free parents, and was himself free, but found, nevertheless, insurmountable obstacles to advancement. He could not enjoy his freedom. Seeing how he and his parents suffered under a ban, he often thought what would become of his children. For their sakes he went to Liberia, and sincerely thanked God that he ever took that step; and he also thanked the Colonization Society for what they had done for him.

Before he went to Liberia he went through the different states to see what his free colored brethren were doing. He visited Philadelphia and New York, and corresponded with his people in other parts of the Union. In Liberia he remained fourteen months, before he returned to his family. He believed the Colonization Society to be designed of God. No one could think how proud he felt, when, by its kindness, he became settled in Liberia, and called it *his home*. There his race could enjoy freedom, and could worship God, none daring to make them afraid. He urged his colored brethren here to *educate their children for Liberia*. The climate was just adapted to them. It was as pleasant as life itself. The soil was as good as men could ask Heaven to give. They could live as safely as in any country of the world, and in greater happiness. The republic required a little more strength, and a little more head: these would come; but in the meantime the republic was prospering.

He had traveled far into the interior. Christianity and civilization were making wonderful strides. There were millions yet degraded, but the work of reformation was begun; opposition was giving way, and darkness was receding before the spreading light of Christian truth. Last year on his mission station he baptized fourteen with his own hands, and to this day they give good evidence of sound conversion to God. Africa was to be redeemed; star must be added to star, till the bright constellation became a proud sign in the heavens. The little one shall yet become a great nation. He loved Liberia because it was his own land; and much as he loved America also, because it was a Christian country, if he had thought he should die here he certainly would not have come. He wished to end his days in Liberia.

President Roberts addressed the meeting. He had had twenty years' experience in Liberia, and he had lost all doubts as to its certain prosperity. The colony and republic there had done more to suppress and root out the slave trade, than the combined efforts of the navies of France and England. He gave some facts in illustration of this, which have already been published in the periodicals of the Colonization Society.

Mr. Harris, a farmer in Liberia, next spoke. His remarks were principally confined to a narrative of the attack upon Rev. Mr. Brown's house by two hundred and fifty natives, and its gallant and successful defence by the speaker, as aforetime published in the Christian Advocate and Journal. At the close of his address, the highly gratified audience was dismissed with the benediction.

It is a *fact* that the Colony (now Commonwealth) of Liberia has done more to extirpate the slave trade on the Western Coast to the windward of the Gold Coast, than all the naval force there employed, put together. It probably cost less than one-twentieth as much.—*Daily Paper.*

While we were in New York, President Roberts received the following interesting communication from a gentleman of Port au Prince, Hayti, accompanied by a copy of the "Feuille du Commerce," a paper published at Port au Prince, in which is a brief sketch of the founding and progress of the Colony of Liberia, by the same gentleman. They are mainly interesting as showing how readily the Haytiens respond to the movements of their Liberia brethren.

PORT AU PRINCE, HAYTI, May 19th, 1848.

To His Excellency, J. J. ROBERTS, President of the Republic of Liberia.

Respected Sir.—The humble individual who has the honour to write to you these few lines, was born in the State of Virginia, in the United States of America, and is now residing in the Republic of Hayti, and is known to some of your people, Mr. Russwurm, whose acquaintance I made in Alexandria, D. C. and Mr. J. W. Prout, of Baltimore. I had also a cousin by the name of John Bell, from Waterford, near Loudon, in Virginia, that emigrated to Liberia in 1830, or thereabouts.

Without sir, intruding on your time in calling your attention to matters wholly unimportant to your official duties, yet I cannot but inform your excellency that it is a curious fact, that notwithstanding I have never visited Liberia, and that I am now living in Hayti, yet I was the only one among my coloured brethren in the United States that openly advocated Liberian colonization—this I did in 1829 and 1830, by writing in the "Genius of Universal Emancipation," at Baltimore, under my own signature. For having taken this course I was stigmatized by my coloured brethren in the U. S. and burnt in effigy. I stated to them then that "they should not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn;" but they said then that they would not tread out of the U. S., but would continue to tread in it, and see what they termed God's providence realized, in the perfect enjoyment of equality among the whites. That this work of colonization is a work of God's providence, and that Liberia is the only place where they can sit down and enjoy liberty and equality, and a free expression of their own social and political sentiments, was my opinion at the time, and I am happy to see that my predictions are coming to be realized, and the settled opinions of many now, who were opposed to me at the time when I wrote, and I doubt not but that you will have a great emigration from the U. S. to Liberia.

Liberia is the modern Jordan in which they must be baptized, in order to cleanse them from the grovelling effects that slavery has wrought upon them, consequent upon and growing out of the state of things as they exist in the United States, and make them co-participators of that true republican liberty and equality, which they can enjoy no where else except in Liberia.

Though thirteen years absent from the United States I have been an observer of the progress of Liberia, and I see now with unspeakable satisfaction that her course is onward to empire and to fame.

I send you herewith a paper printed in the French language in this city, wherein you will perceive that I have given an imperfect history (under my own signature) of the rise and progress of Liberia, which the people of this Republic were ignorant of.

* * * * *

I pray your excellency will send me a few of your newspapers, and several copies of your constitution and laws of your Republic, and I beg leave to subscribe myself,

Your excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

JOHN B. HEPBURN.

PORT AU PRINCE, Feb. 9, 1848.

It seems to me that whatever is interesting to a part of the African race, should be so to us also. The subject which I am going to treat of, has particularly for its object to give some historical facts about a part of our race, who, having been transported to the new world through the cupidity of another race, has since returned to Africa, and established for itself a government. Their enterprise has been crowned with complete success—they have proved to the whole world that they are capable of governing themselves on the soil of their ancestors, by the aid and munificence of philanthropy. All this has been accomplished to the glory of the philanthropists of the United States, and it is unnecessary to say, if there are some men unjust towards our race in that country, there are also others who have spent much money for the civil and political liberty and advancement of this race; others who have even undergone the penalty of imprisonment in the penitentiary for having been too much devoted to our cause. As a proof of the benevolence of the friends of our race in the United States, I wish to speak to you of the new Republic of Liberia, of which I will give you the history.

About the year 1820 a Society was formed at Washington, the capitol of the United States, under the title of the "American Colonization Society." This Society had for its object the establishment of an asylum in Africa for the men of the African race, who would voluntarily emigrate, and for those who were in servitude, and whose masters wished to emancipate them on condition that they should be sent to Africa. The Society counted in anticipation upon the contributions of the friends of the cause, so as to second it in this enterprise. The first president of this Society was Mr. Bushrond Washington, of Mount Vernon, a relative of General Washington, and the vice-president, Mr. Caldwell, of Washington City. The most distinguished men of the United States became members of this association. A deputation was sent to Africa to procure a locality, and this same deputation succeeded in purchasing of its proprietors a vast extent of land in the western part of Africa, and upon the shore of the Atlantic, on which to commence the operations of the Society.

The first colony was founded in Africa about the year 1820. The efforts of the Society were sustained by voluntary gifts made in the U. S. For the relief of the necessities of the Society, subscriptions were opened in all the churches of the United States on the 4th of July of every year, for the aid of the Colonization Society. Many individuals gave sums of \$1,000, and even \$10,000, and some States annually dedicated considerable sums to Liberia. The State of Maryland has established a colony near that of Liberia, called Cape Palmas, at its own expense, with the aid of the contributions of the citizens of the same State. Mr. J. B. Russwurm, (mulatto) is the governor. He is a man educated at Bowdoin, a college in the State of Maine—formerly editor of "Freedom's Journal," in N. Y., and one of the associates of the house of Dailay & Russwurm, and at one time editor of the Liberia Herald. This colony will soon be one of the confederated states of the Republic of Liberia.

The constitution of the Liberia Republic was formed by convention, in July, 1847, and sanctioned by the people the 27th Sept. of the same year. Oct. 5th, the first election of officers who were to serve under the new constitution was made; it resulted in the following choice, the governor, J. J. Roberts was proclaimed President of the Republic for four years, and Nathaniel Brander, Vice-President. The motto of the Republic is "The love of liberty brought us here." The twenty-fourth of August, the new standard of the Republic was adopted—this day was celebrated

with enthusiasm. The flag of the Republic is like that of the United States, composed of red and white stripes—the small flag for the vessels is blue and spotted, with round white stars. Monrovia is the capital of the Republic, it is a fortified* city with a good port—it contains schools of the highest class, a church, public library, journals, etc.

The 24th October, the American squadron on the Coast of Africa, and Capt. Murray of a sloop of war of H. B. M. after having learned the new political state of the Republic gave a salute of 20 guns.

Liberia is constituted an independent state in its own right, without allegiance to any other government. This new state of things will be signified to the different powers. Its political form is purely civil and representative, destined to be federal, like that of the United States. The vice of intoxication is not known in the Republic, no grog-shops exist theret†—the Government does not permit the sale of spirituous liquors. One of the governors of this Republic was of the white race, named Buchanan, a very excellent man; at the time of his death he begged the Colonization Society at Washington, to name for his successor, the assistant governor Roberts, and after to permit only the African race to hold authority in the colony. This policy has been followed, and Mr. Roberts, a coloured man, is now President of the Republic. He is a liberated slave from Virginia, 45 years of age, has been in the colony 15 years, and governor 6. He is a man gifted with a great deal of energy and piety, and is in every way respectable, and worthy of the important duties which he fulfils. In one of his correspondences with the captain of an English frigate, he has manifested a great deal of good sense, a perfect knowledge of the rights of men, and the laws of nations.

The honorable Henry Clay, senator of the United States, in his speech pronounced the 19th Nov. 1847, against the war of Mexico, said, in speaking of Liberia, that he had read a discourse of Gov. Roberts, on the occasion of opening of the Liberia legislature, and that it would compare with those of the governors of the different states of the Union. There are many examples of the liberated slaves who have quitted the United States without resources and have become rich in Liberia by their traffic and industry. Sufficient funds are all that is necessary to give a great extent to this flourishing Republic.

In January, this year, 140 emigrants left New Orleans, and as many more from Baltimore for Liberia. There is a packet with three masts which sails between Baltimore and Liberia, named the "Liberia Packet," which carries emigrants, is manned and commanded by coloured Americans.

There is always on the books of the Colonization Society in the United States more slaves offered by their masters than they have means to pay the passage of.

This Republic offers an asylum to the free coloured persons of the United States; it gives the example of a high state of civilization for the neighbouring people, for each of the emigrants is a missionary, who carries the Bible in one hand and civilization in the other; it has already extended its dominion to an immense extent into the interior. The princes and headmen of Africa have come to submit themselves to the power of the Republic, and have sent their children to be educated in their villages. This Republic has already expelled the slave trade from 48 leagues to the south of Sierra Leone, (English colony) and from as great an extent above Cape Palmas, from all points which it occupies.

* Fortified only by the bravery of its inhabitants.—*Ed. Jour.*

† The writer is erroneously applying the attributes of the colony at Cape Palmas to the new Commonwealth.

Independently of all the commerce of its own country, it receives the vessels of France and England. Its principal products are palm oil, ivory, gold dust, rice and coffee, equal to that of Mocha, which will bring 16 cents (Spanish) in foreign markets. A great many commission merchants reside here, and have become very rich. During 28 years of existence, the colony has surmounted all difficulties, made treaties and annexed much territory.

The rapidity with which this Republic has increased, and still continues to, is extraordinary. We can attribute this increase only to the manner in which the governing and the governed have followed the fundamental principles of the precepts of that religion, which is the basis of a political health and perpetual glory. It is guided by these precepts, "love your neighbor as yourself," "do unto others, as you would others should do unto you, for God has made all men with the same flesh and blood, all the nations of the earth, virtue only elevates a nation, and their sins only are a reproach to all people."

At Liberia there are black, yellow, and some white; they live together in the most perfect harmony, tied by the indissoluble knot of christian fraternity, professing and practising the religion of that Christ who teaches to the king his duty towards the subject, and the subject towards the king, both of whom, away from the pomps and circumstances of this world, are destined to appear before the great judge of all the earth to receive the recompense of eternity.

The interest which causes the stranger to wish for the prosperity of Liberia, is the result of its rectitude and of its good faith in all of its affairs; let it be in the interior or exterior, asking nothing but that justice may have place, and supporting no injustice.

A long time before the declaration of its independence, we have seen letters coming from England inviting the Republic of Liberia to send an agent to London and Paris for the purpose of recognising its independence.

Now we will leave the Republic to its destiny; may it remember that God has always been for or against the children of Israel, according to their conduct; may it always have Him in remembrance, who has caused his thunders to be heard on Sinai, who has groaned in the garden of agony, and who has expired upon the cross; may it learn that for a nation to flourish, it is necessary that its children should be raised in the fear of God, for without God who guards the cities the cry of the watchman is vain.

Counting upon thy most ardent supplications, oh Liberia! to the Divine Providence, we recommend to Him thy glory and thy future welfare.

J. B. HEPBURN.

Mr. Sion Harris, who, with his associate, Mr. Demons, so ably defended the Meth. Mission Station, at Heddington, against the attack of Goterah and his 300 warriors, in 1839, is now in this city and will remain here until the return of the Packet. Any person wishing to see him, may do so, by calling at the Colonization office before 2 o'clock in the day. He is a plain, energetic Liberia farmer, has been in that country about 20 years, and is able to tell the whole story about it in plain English.

The Liberia Packet is expected in by the 15th of August. In case she arrives *in time*, we shall try hard to get her off by the 10th September. It is quite safe to calculate that she will sail for the Colony again by the 20th of that month.

